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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

7 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military SituationSummary

There has been little change in the front lines during the past 24 hours. The enemy has continued to exert heavy pressure against UN forces defending the Kyongju-Yongchon road in the east sector. Heavy artillery and mortar fire has been directed against UN forces all along the south front. Enemy forces, supported by tanks, have entered Waegwan. UN air units flew a record number of combat air sorties in good weather.

South Sector

Elements of the US 25th Division received extremely heavy enemy mortar and artillery fire, but there were no reports of large enemy infantry attacks. Recently located enemy pockets in the rear of US positions were mopped up with an estimated 500 enemy wiped out in one pocket. Further to the north in the Yongsan-Changnyong area, the US 2nd Division received heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire, and repulsed several enemy attacks with little change in positions.

Center Sector

The US 1st Cavalry Division, holding the line west and north of Taegu, reported continuous enemy attacks and several small enemy infiltrations of the defense perimeter north of Taegu. The battered town of Waegwan, about 12 miles northwest of Taegu, is now occupied by enemy troops supported by several tanks. There was no significant enemy activity in the ROK 1st and 6th Division zone northeast of Taegu. The ROK 8th Division cleared an enemy road block on the main highway two miles southeast of Yongchon.

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East Sector

The situation in the east sector remains fluid with enemy forces reported along a line running four miles north and north-east of Yongchon and six miles north of Kyongju. Enemy attacks toward Kyongju are continuing against elements of the ROK Capital Division and the US 24th Division. There was no significant activity in the Pohang area, but the enemy continued pressure against the ROK 3rd Division defending south of the city.

Navy

UN naval units engaged in patrol activity, and delivered fire support for ground units in the Pohang area and on the Korean south coast.

Air

The heaviest tactical air assault in 72 consecutive days of air operations was made in good weather by UN air forces which flew a total of 620 sorties, including 440 combat attacks. More than half the missions were in support of UN ground forces in the east sector. US heavy bombers struck iron works in the North Korean city of Chongjin on the east coast.

II. General Situation

No significant developments have been reported during the past 24 hours.

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